

a drawer handle mounted on the front side wall of the drawer, said drawer handle including a plate positioned on the top edge of the drawer, said plate pivotal on the top edge between a first drawer retention position and a second drawer release position;

said plate projecting into the drawer from the front edge and including a catch member attached to the plate, said catch member including a catch tab projecting generally transverse to the direction of drawer slide movement;

means for biasing said plate and catch member about the front edge toward the first position; and

*C
count'd*
a strike mounted on the inside of the cabinet at the front opening adjacent the drawer top edge when the drawer is closed, said strike positioned for engagement by the biased catch member when in the first position, and disengaged therefrom when the plate is manually pivoted about the top edge to the second position by moving the handle against the force of the means for biasing.

E Please amend claim 2 as follows:

2. The mechanism of claim 1 wherein said strike is attached to the telescoping slide.

E Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. The mechanism of claim 1 including first and second catch members attached to the handle adjacent respectively the lateral side walls of the drawer, said first and second catch members positioned on the inside of the drawer to retain the handle from lateral sliding movement.

C1
[Please amend claim 4 as follows:]

4. The mechanism of claim 1 wherein the handle includes a depending run extending from the plate on the inside of the drawer, said depending run hingedly connected to the front side wall of the drawer.

C1
[Please amend claim 5 as follows:]

5. The latch mechanism of claim 1 wherein said slides comprise a first wall attachment section and at least one telescoping section, said telescoping section being attached to the lateral side wall of the drawer, said first wall attachment section including said strike.

C2
[Please add the following claims:]

8. A latch mechanism for a sliding drawer mounted in a cabinet with a cabinet wall and front opening, said drawer supported by telescoping slides attached to the cabinet wall and the drawer, said drawer including a front side wall with a top edge and lateral side walls, said telescoping slides attached to the lateral side walls of the drawer for support and movement of the drawer into and out of the cabinet, said slides comprising a first cabinet wall attachment section and at least one telescoping section attached to a lateral side wall of the drawer; said latch mechanism comprising in combination:

a drawer handle mounted on the front side wall of the drawer, said drawer handle including a plate on the top edge of the drawer, said plate pivotal on the top edge between a first drawer retention position and a second drawer release position;

said plate projecting into the drawer from the front edge and including a catch member

attached to the plate with a catch tab projecting generally transverse to the direction of drawer slide movement;

means for biasing said plate and catch member about the front edge toward the first position; and

a strike mounted on the inside of at least one of said cabinet wall slide attachment sections at the front opening adjacent the drawer top edge when the drawer is closed,

C2
Cont'd

said strike positioned for engagement by the biased catch member when in the first position, and disengagement therefrom when the plate is manually pivoted about the top edge to the second position by moving the handle against the force of the means for biasing.

9. The mechanism of claim 8 including first and second catch members attached to the handle, each catch member being adjacent to a separate one of the lateral side walls of the drawer to restrain the handle from side to side sliding movement as a result of engagement of the catch members with the lateral side walls.

10. The mechanism of claim 8 wherein the handle includes a depending run extending from the plate on the inside of the drawer, said depending run hingedly connected to the front side wall of the drawer.

11. The latch mechanism of claim 8 wherein the handle extends along the full front side wall of the drawer.

12. The latch mechanism of claim 8 including at least one interlocking tab for attaching the plate to the front side wall of the drawer.

13. A latch mechanism for a sliding drawer mounted in a cabinet with a cabinet wall and front opening, said drawer supported by telescoping slides attached to the cabinet and the drawer, said drawer including a front side wall with a top edge and lateral side walls, said telescoping slides attached to the lateral side walls of the drawer for support and movement of the drawer into and out of the cabinet, said latch mechanism comprising, in combination;

*C2
cont'd*
a drawer handle mounted on the front side wall of the drawer, said drawer handle including a plate pivotal on the top edge of the drawer between a first drawer retention position and a second drawer release position;

said plate projecting into the drawer from the front edge and including a first catch member and a second catch member, the first catch member attached to the handle adjacent one side wall of the drawer, the second catch member attached to the handle adjacent the other side wall of the drawer, said catch members positioned to retain the handle from lateral, side to side sliding movement, at least one of said catch members including a catch tab projecting generally transverse to the direction of drawer slide movement;

means for biasing the plate and catch members about the front edge toward the first position; and

a strike mounted on the inside of said cabinet at the front opening adjacent the drawer top edge when the drawer is closed, said strike positioned for engagement by the biased catch member when in the first position, and disengagement therefrom when the plate is manually

pivoted about the top edge to the second position by moving the handle against the force of the means for biasing.

14. The mechanism of claim 13 wherein the handle includes a depending run extending from the plate on the inside of the drawer, said depending run hingedly connected to the front side wall of the drawer.

*C2
cont'd*
15. The latch mechanism of claim 13 wherein said slides comprise a first wall attachment section at least one telescoping section attached to the lateral side wall of the drawer, said wall attachment section including said strike.

16. The latch mechanism of claim 13 wherein the handle extends along the full front side wall of the drawer.

17. The latch mechanism of claim 13 including at least one interlocking tab for attaching the plate to the front side wall of the drawer.

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 were originally submitted. Claims 3 and 5 were deemed allowable if rewritten to independent form. Independent claims 8 and 13 are modeled on original claims 3 and 5. Claims 9-12 and 14-17 depend on claims 8 and 13, respectively. Thus, the newly added claims 8-17 are believed to be allowable.

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.
Ten South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 715-1000

Attorney Docket No. 10968.86881